AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical implant configured to be implanted at least partially within a well formed in an outer surface of a skull bone of a recipient, the implant comprising:

a low profile hermetically sealed housing having at least one pliable flange extending outwardly therefrom, wherein the housing has a length and width that are substantially greater than a thickness between an upper and lower surface of the housing, wherein the housing defines a plane configured to match a plane of the outer surface of the skull bone in which the medical implant is configured to be implanted, ~~wherein~~ wherein, when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, the at least one flange is bendable by hand so that at least a portion of the at least one flange fits substantially flush against the surface of the bone adjacent the well and is securable to the bone.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the implant is an implantable component of a tissue-stimulating prosthesis.

4. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 3, wherein the tissue-stimulating prosthesis is a cochlear implant and the implantable component is a receiver/stimulator package of the cochlear implant.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the well is surgically formed in the surface of the bone of the recipient.

7. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein the housing has at least two flanges extending outwardly therefrom.

8. (Original) The medical implant of claim 7 wherein the housing has two flanges that extend in substantially opposite directions relative to each other.

9. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein at least one of said at least one flange extends at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing from the upper surface of the housing.

10. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein at least one of said at least one flange extends at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing from the lower surface of the housing.

11. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein at least one of said at least one flange extends from the housing at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing and at a location between the upper surface of the housing and the lower surface of the housing.

12. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 11 wherein said at least one flange extends outwardly from a location that is approximately midway between the upper and lower surfaces.

13. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein a plate is mounted to the housing and said at least one flange extends outwardly from the plate.

14. (Original) The medical implant of claim 13 wherein said plate is removably or non-removably mounted to the housing.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein said at least one flange has a thickness between about 0.1 mm and 0.3 mm.

18. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein said at least one flange is an integral extension of the housing.

19. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein said at least one flange is formed separately and mounted to the housing.

20. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein said at least one flange is removably mounted to the housing.

21. (Original) The medical implant of claim 20 wherein said at least one flange or the housing is provided with engagement means that are engageable with the housing or flange, respectively.

22. (Original) The medical implant of claim 21 wherein the engagement means comprises one or more clips on the housing that are engageable with the flanges.

23. (Original) The medical implant of claim 1 wherein said at least one flange has one or more orifices passing therethrough that are adapted to receive a tissue fixation device.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein said medical implant comprises a material selected from a group consisting of titanium, stainless steel, silicone rubber, non-magnetic metal, plastic, PTFE, Dacron mesh, polyurethane, and carbon fiber.

27. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein said flange is welded onto said housing.

28. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein said housing comprises a silicone rubber coating.

29. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein said flange comprises a silicone rubber coating.

30. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the medical implant is a receiver/stimulator package of a cochlear implant; and wherein the receiver/stimulator package further comprises:

a receiver coil extending from the housing and configured to be positioned on the outer surface of the skull bone adjacent to the housing when the housing is implanted in the well formed in the skull bone.

31. (New) A low profile hermetically sealed housing for medical implant configured to be implanted at least partially within a well formed in an outer surface of a skull bone of a recipient, the housing comprising:

at least one pliable flange extending outwardly therefrom, wherein the housing has a length and width that are substantially greater than a thickness between an upper and lower surface of the housing, wherein the housing defines a plane configured to match a plane of the outer surface of the skull bone in which the medical implant is configured to be implanted, wherein, when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, the at least one flange is conformable by hand so that at least a portion of the at least one flange may be conformed to the surface of the bone adjacent the well and is securable to the bone.